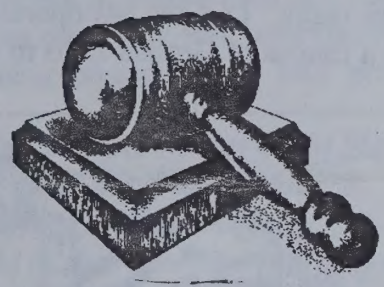
La Carta

April 1995 Volume 5 Issue 4

The Rule Stays

Last months article reminding everyone of one of La Guia's most sacred rules created quite a stir! The article "WE'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE!" involved a policy adopted by the La Guia Steering Committee in 1993 which outlined the code of conduct of members treatment of each other and other gay groups. Simply stated, the policy encourages members to use "respect, tolerance, dignity and compromise" as guidelines in dealing with issues within and outside the group. The policy was intended to end deadlock (which it did) and encourage coalitions with other groups. (which it did) The policy was an attempt to bypass the "infighting" which was prevelent at the time in other communities in hopes of setting an example for them to follow with out getting involved in the bickering. Luckily, that kind of uncompromising attitudes by gay groups through-out Colorado is almost non-existent. Plus, re-stating our policy of compromise over deadlock does not mean that individuals had reached that point, but many felt that the signs were there for damaging coalitions with groups in Southern Colorado and Denver. Obviously, there is growing resentment in our community for the inaction and lack of outreach by other groups in rural Colorado. Plus, compounded by the realization that as a LesBiTransGay organization, we are probably THE poorest group per-capita in the entire state. That has strained the patience with well meaning groups who don't understand what we're going through. Since our group is made up of so many diverse elements from a variety of areas around the state, this rule has become more important than ever. Interesting enough, the rule and the consequences of breaking the guidelines will stand as is and ,by the Board of Director's unanimous decision will not be removed from our by-laws. All individuals will still be required to practice respectful tolerance in dealing with others to protect the dignity and diversity of not only the individuals, but the organization as a whole. Unfortunately, despite the fact that no names nor specific "Divisions" were singled-out, several individuals from almost every division called the Hot-line asking if the article was meant specifically for them. Apparently, there have been more controversies than we were aware of. Sadly so, I will reiterate to each and every caller who inquired about the article... 'the rule is meant for everyone, no member of La Guia is exempt'. We also must add that if members are not involved in La Guia activities, we don't want to know nor do we want to validate unacceptable behavior by being involved.

This article was written with the joint input and efforts of the entire La Guia Board of Directors. All messages were received by the office staff then relayed to the appropiate responding 'Director'.



Note to La Guia Pueblo: at his request, Robert requested that we note that he was not being singled out; the article was for everyone and not an individual.

La Carta is a monthly publication that is autorized for publication by the La Guia Board of Directors. Contents do not necessarily reflect the officials views of the organization. The La Carta staff reserves the right to edit all submissions for length or content. Submissions should be sent to P.O. Box 1335 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901

La Guia and Ground Zero?

La Guia currently supports a caucus in Ground Zero and the PPGLCC, and only a few members of La Guia belong to each caucus. A proposal to shift the entire organization into a Hispanic caucus of Ground Zero has been approved for study by the Board of Directors. Under this proposal , La Guia would still remain autonomous but would constitute the Hispanic caucus of Ground Zero. Also under the proposal , support for a PPGLCC caucus would be abandoned but members would be encouraged to join the PPGLCC on their own.

Under this proposal, La Guia would immediately be availiable for funding and the close relationship between our most supportive ally would integrate many of the groups services. The main change would occur in the publication of the Newsletter (La Carta) which would appear as a 2 to 4 page section in the "Ground Zero News". La Guia mailing lists would still be confidential and would be managed by the La Guia office staff in conjuction with Ground Zero mailings.

All other functions would remain the same but would be easier and Representation of La Guia as Ground Zero members would assure that La Guia keeps it's autonomous status. Each Division will still be encouraged to hold their individual Division meetimgs, but each division would also be required to send representation to our yearly Regional meetings, each hosted by a different Division approx. every three months.

WILL LA GUIA CHANGE?

Not really. La Guia has operated as a caucus of Ground Zero to an

extent. The difference will be most obvious in the perception of other people. The Board realizes that apprehension by a few members is inevitable but a survey at the end of May will be conducted to explain the benefits of our association with Ground Zero to the membership. We encourage everyone to call the hot-line to express individual views. Please leave your name and number when you call, otherwise we have to wait for the phone number read outs at the end of the month. (yes, the 800# records all incoming calls on our tele. ph. bill! so we know exactly who calls, even hang-up calls). So please voice your opinion BEFORE the decision is made to officially proceed.

For your information, the consensus to study a full caucus was unanimous with some reservations concerning our autonomy, but it is generally felt that Ground Zero will work to ensure a dignified and equal partnership. A dialog has been opened with G.Z. leaders and will continue through out the negotiations.

¡Mira!

Division Meeting for La Guia Pueblo
McClelland Library Sat. April 22nd. 1:00 p.m.
100 E. Abriendo Ave.
Pueblo, Co.

Division Meeting for La Guia Colo. Springs
Sat. April 27th. 2pm
La Guia office at the "Center" in C. S , Co..

La Guia Pueblo "Cinco de Mayo" booth on the May 5th. wknd.

also coming in May:
-Regional Mtg.-C.S.
-San Luis Division Mtg.
-Denver Division Orientation

A finales del ano pasado, cuando hacia escala en el aeropuerto de San Luis viviendo para Colorado Springs, pensaba que seria dificil o incomodo vivir en un lugar que a nivel nacional tiene fama der ser homofobico, pero no obstante ello, una vez intalado aqui, decidi averiguar por algun comite o grupo gay y para mi sopresa encontre que son varias las organizaciones que aqui existen ; pero fue mayor mi sopresa al sader que tambien un grupo Hispano. Asi pues, que gracias al Frank de Ground Zero, entre en contacto con Gaime y supe que el grupo Hispano, La Guia, cuenta ademas con su propio medio de difusion La Carta.

Me interese entonces por La Carta, y Gaime me ha dado la oportunidad de enviar mensajes en espanol para nuestra comunidad principalmente, y aprovechando eso, he decidido traer periodicamente informacion referente a todo lo que tenga que ver con el HIV y El Sida ya que siempre he consiserado que debemos estar muy bien informados y tomar conciencia de este problema de talla mundial. Es importante que sepamos que en el mundo entero existen mas de 17,000,000 de portadores del virus de inmunodeficiencia humana, o HIV, el agente causante del SIDA. Approximadamente 3,000,000 de personas se contagiaron en un ano reciente, lo que equivale a unas 8,000 personas por dia. Y aunque esta cifras parezcan escandalosas, son ciertas y mucho tiene que ver aqui la falta de conocimiento y la falta de conciencia sobreeata alarmante epidemia. Un joven amigo mio me decia dias antes de morir, en Nueva York, "..Hernan, cuidate mucho y aprende lo que yo no aprendi antes, pues yo siempre crei que el SIDA le daba era a los demas...y ya ves.." Y como mi amigo Joe, varios de mis amigos se han ido y es por todo esto que quiero llegar a ustedes trayendo datos, recomendaciones, historias y el general la mayor informacion posible aprovechando este espacio en La Carta y la colabracion de las lineas nacionales de prevencion de SIDA. Desde ahora quiero informales que todos podemos tener acceso directo a estas lineas sin ningun costo y alli nos responden cualquier pregunta o duda respecto a este tema. Los numeros son los siguientes: 1-800-344-SIDA en Espanol y 1-800-342-AIDS en ingles. Estas lineas estan abiertas desde las 8:00 am hasta las 2:00 am hora del este. De todas formas si desean pueden enviar sus inquitudes y preguntas a La Carta y con todo gusto las resonderemos siempre con la ayuda de profesionales y expertos en estos asuntos.

De Hernan D'Alba

I'm new in town and would like to meet people in Colorado Springs between the 20-30 yrs. old to show me around. I'm from South America - Hernan

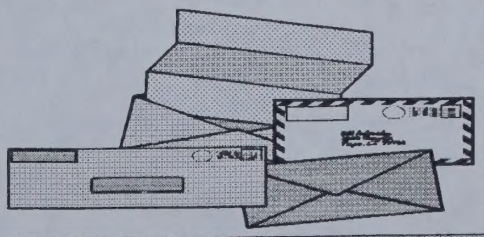
LLEGO BOUND

Mitch Garcia and Brian Archuleta from the San Luis Valley and Manual Gurule' of Denver are planning to attend the National LLEGO Conference in Washington D.C. in May representing La Guia. We are proud of these guys and hopefully La Guia will benefit from their representation. The theme of this years conference is "Building Community" marking LLEGO's 8th. year of community building and empowerment. It's still not too late to register for the conference so if your interested call the hot line.

Pen Pal

I'm new in town and would like to meet people in Colorado Springs between the 20-30 yrs. old. I'm from South America and need friends to show me around.

Address letters to Hernando
C\O La Guia
PO Box 1335
Colorado Springs, CO 80901



Running for Congress & Gay?

Friday, March 24, Tom Doyle, an openly gay and HIV positive congressional candidate, formally declared his candidacy for the U.S. Congress, Colorado Third Congressional District (the Scott McInnis seat).

The 3rd Congressional District contains 39 counties. It runs from Pueblo, through the San Luis Valley, up through Aspen and Vail, and all the way to Grand Junction. The campaign will cost between $750,000 and $1,000,000. All donations will be cheerfully received.

Send to: Doyle for Congress
Neil Harman, Treasurer
314 West Fourth
Florence, CO 81226
719 429-2555

Doyle is now chairman of the Fremont County Commissioners. Doyle has served two terms on the Canon City School Board, and have served as past president. Doyle was also chairman of the Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments.

Southern Colorado here is your chance to make your voice count if you want an openly gay congressman. This is not an endorsement but an interesting occurence in Colorado not to mention a very brave act on Doyle's part.

Diversity through Inclusion

Our Mission:

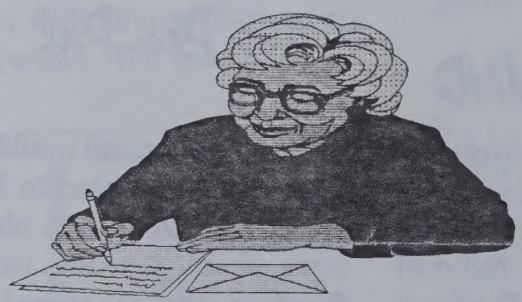
La Guia is a cultural awareness and advocacy service organization that encourages the inclusion of Hispano/Latino Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgendered, Gays, and their friends by providing a diverse forum that is both autonomous and interactive within the greater Gay and Lesbian community.

Our Vision:

We envision a Gay and Lesbian community that is educated and respectful of the racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity within the Hispano/Latino community, and who are aware of the benefits of maintaining a pluralistic society.

Our Description:

We represent Hispano/Latino Lesbians,Gays, Transgendered, Bisexuals, and their friends from a variety of backgrounds throughout Colorado who are dedicated to the unification and education of the Gay and Lesbian community at large, and who believe in the mission statement of La Guia.



Tia Pancha

Chuletas Espanolas

6 Pork Chops
Caribe sauce (refer to Nov. issue)
Onion salt
2 cloves of Garlic
Cumin
Oregano

Season chops with salt and pepper
Brown chops in small amount of fat/oil
Add seasonings to red chili sauce
Simmer meat in sauce 1-2 hours until very tender
Serve with rice (prepared in chicken broth in place of water)